

Annual Report - NATIONAL

TURNING NIGHT



INTO LIGHT

ANNUAL REPORT 1965

THE EYE BANK FOR
LIGHT RESTORATION, INC.

MEMORIAL OF THE EYE-BANK.

Founded in 1944 by a group led by Dr. R. Townley Paton, The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration, Inc. is recognized today as the first such center to be established anywhere for receiving and processing human eyes for use in corneal transplant operations, as a source of vitreous fluid, and for study and research.

It has served as inspiration and guide in the founding of over eighty other eye banks located throughout this country and abroad, and it has provided training for surgeons from all over the world in the techniques of corneal transplantation.

Through its work alone, nearly 8,000 blind and partially blind men, women and children have benefited through improved sight, and countless numbers are benefiting indirectly through research carried out in The Eye-Bank laboratory.

The Bank's library of 16,000 eye specimens is the largest and most complete in the world. Its fine facilities and renowned medical staff have maintained The Eye-Bank and its associated Corneal Clinic in a leading position as a center for treatment, study and research in the field.

Donations of eyes, which numbered only a few pairs in 1944, now exceed a thousand each year. As a result, the long and trying periods, during which the patient awaited the donation of eyes in order to begin his treatment, have been almost entirely eliminated. There is no charge of any kind for eye material used in patient operations.

The Eye-Bank is located at Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital. While The Eye-Bank is a completely separate entity, the cooperation of the hospital and its staff is a valuable asset in making Eye-Bank services available to all hospitals and qualified ophthalmologists.

The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration is an entirely voluntary, non-profit institution. Its affairs are guided by directors who serve without remuneration of any kind and who give of their time and financial support to further its work.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year marks the twenty-first year of continuous and dedicated operation of The Eye-Bank. Now that we have come of age, we can review with pride and satisfaction the accomplishments of our youth. We can look forward to the future, to continued association with those who have brought us through our successful adolescence, to new associations with those who will also help to carry us along into the future and to the growth of our significant contributions in the field of human sight.

In the early 1940's, less than a dozen doctors in the nation had the experience necessary to transplant a cornea and there was no formal center where study, teaching and research could be undertaken in this special field. In the preamble of this report, entitled "Profile of The Eye-Bank", you have read how we started, what we stand for, and to some extent what we have done. In the ensuing pages, you will read the report of the Executive Director, summarizing what we have done in the past year and what we are doing now. You will read the Medical Director's report, which briefly spells out advances in techniques and research. You will read a summary of our financial position, our needs and our listings.

By then, we hope, you who have supported our efforts over the years will feel that your support has reaped a good harvest, and that we should continue to cultivate these fields to the benefit of mankind. To those of you who have not been a part of our first twenty-one years, but would like to become a part of our future, we say — The Eye-Bank will continue its leadership in the fields of research, which are broadened by each new discovery. The costs of meeting this challenge are increasing with our changing economy. If we are to continue in the pattern of our past successes, we need an increased measure of support not only from our many present friends, but also from new friends. The satisfaction of increased accomplishment will be the dividend.

As this is written, the Board of Directors of The Eye-Bank wish to commemorate the anniversary of the death of our past president, Percy L. Douglas, and to thank his many friends for their generous support of The Eye-Bank in his memory.

The Board expresses its sincere thanks to the medical and administrative staffs for their outstanding efforts on behalf of The Eye-Bank and to all who contributed so generously during the year to assure that our vital work will continue.

ROBERT M. FERGUSON
President



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This quotation is from a letter received at The Eye-Bank. It was written by a woman from the New York area who had recently undergone a corneal transplant operation.

"As a testimonial to my present vision, I can only say that a whole new dimension has been added to my life — one that I had almost forgotten existed — and I am savoring the sights of this world as only one can who came near to losing them. The depth of my gratitude to you (the doctor) and to The Eye-Bank is really beyond my ability to express."

Such an expression, one of many that come to The Eye-Bank, is a gratifying recognition of achievement of our purpose. This end result, however, could not have been accomplished without the efforts of many.

In the fields of public information and eye donations, Lions Clubs, Knights Templar, the American Legion, Rotary Clubs, Oddfellows, Masonic Lodges, Women's Clubs, church groups, memorial societies, and many others, have contributed valuable services. In the field of transporting donor eyes to The Eye-Bank for re-distribution to waiting surgeons, the airlines, particularly Eastern Airlines, the American Red Cross Motor Corps, The Long Island Railroad and others have freely given of their services. Carey Transportation in the Greater Metropolitan area now has made available its airport services in behalf of The Eye-Bank.

The cooperation of doctors and hospitals throughout the nation has been invaluable in helping to assure the availability of eyes when needed. Over 200 hospitals in the area surrounding New York City assist by notifying us immediately when eyes became available so that we may receive them promptly. The Eye-Bank Association of America, of which The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration is a charter member, has done much to further cooperation among eye-banks in the exchange of material and information. The Association's network of amateur radio operators has been most helpful in speeding up the distribution of eyes in emergencies.

The Eye-Bank's efforts to obtain more eyes continue to bring results. Progress over the last few years is indicated by the following:

Year ended Apr. 30th	Eyes Received	Corneal Graft	Vitreous Fluid	Research
1963	918	435	128	355
1964	1,012	467	92	453
1965	1,285	551	140	594

Our goal now is to continue to improve this record to fill the growing need. The number of corneal transplants is increasing rapidly; in New York City alone nearly 600 are performed each year. With our rapid growth in population, and the increase of life expectancy to an age when eye diseases are more prevalent, this figure is certain to increase still further.

The growth of The Eye-Bank over the past two decades gives great satisfaction and pride to all who have participated in building this significant institution. We would like especially to express appreciation to all staff members and to our small but faithful group of volunteers who, through their dedicated efforts during the year, have so greatly helped to perpetuate and strengthen the work of The Eye-Bank.

MRS. CORNELIUS P. RHOADS
Executive Director



MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Eye-Bank reached new high levels of activity in the year past. Donations of eyes exceeded all previous contributions and the number of corneal grafts set a record high. Major activities for the year were as follows:

The Corneal Clinic, a joint operation conducted by The Eye-Bank and Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, recorded 1,276 patient visits for 1964. The Clinic is under the leadership of Dr. Herbert M. Katzin, Director of Research at The Eye-Bank.

Several new instruments were developed by Dr. M. Martinez, including a cutting spatula for freeing iris adhesions, and a new disposable trephine blade used in doing corneal transplants. The cutting edge of this trephine is made from the new type of stainless steel razor blades bent into a circle, so that the surgeon now may have the finest and sharpest cutting edge, fresh each time an operation has to be performed. Dr. Martinez also developed a microtrephine to be used in glaucoma surgery.

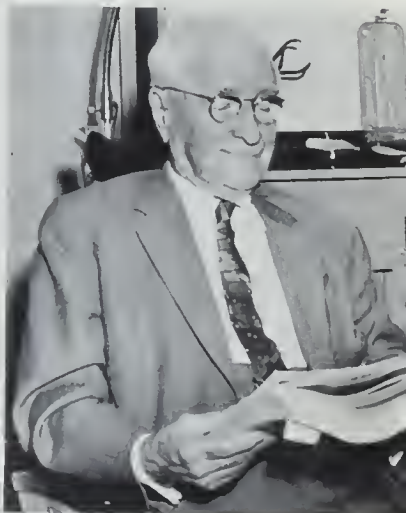
In the field of refractive keratoplasty many refinements were made so that eventually, by freezing a portion of the cornea after its removal, grinding it to the desired curvature and then grafting it back onto the same eye, the optical properties may be changed so that extreme farsightedness, nearsightedness and high degrees of astigmatism may be reduced. Many Eye-Bank eyes are being used to further improve the technique of this type of surgery.

Research has also been done attempting to find a suitable plastic material which can be tolerated by eyes in which, due to the extent of corneal damage, an ordinary type of transplant would not maintain transparency.

Dr. Chi C. Teng has begun his search for the source of an enzyme which he has demonstrated in the eye. The enzyme, which has a destructive action on collagen and nerve fibers, can result in wide angle glaucoma, optic nerve degeneration, iris atrophy and other eye ailments. In The Eye-Bank laboratory, Dr. Teng pioneered in studies of the pathology of certain types of glaucoma using the electron microscope. Other studies, currently in progress, may ultimately explain the causes of eye diseases such as Fuchs dystrophy, a corneal disease which usually begins in the third decade of life and, if untreated, invariably leads to blindness.

In the Department of Experimental Surgery, opened last year, an improved technique has been developed for performing corneal transplants while at the same time removing cataract in Fuchs dystrophy.

R. TOWNLEY PATON, M.D.
Medical Director



The oldest and youngest known patient material from The Eye-Bank compare no is eight years old and the gentleman

Katzin, H. M.: Complications after eye surgery: Anterior iris adhesions. **Inter. Opthal. Clinics** 4:949, 1964.

Teng, C. C.: Vitreous degenerative effect on collagen and nerve fibers. **Amer. J. Opthal.** 58:181, 1964.

Teng, C. C.: Glaucomatous cupping: Optic disc degeneration due to vitreous effect in association with glaucoma. **Amer. J. Opthal.** 58:379, 1964.

PENDING PUBLICATION

Katzin, H.M. and Meltzer, J. F.: Freezing and freeze-drying of the cornea: A review of the literature. A paper presented before the Society for Cryobiology, August 2, 1965. (To be published in **Cryobiology**.)

Teng, C. C.: Vitreous effect on collagen: Part I, An electron microscope study of the sclera in retinal detachment and phthisis bulbi. (Accepted for publication in the **American Journal of Ophthalmology**.)

Teng, C. C.: Vitreous effect on collagen: Part II, An electron microscope study of the perivascular changes of the central retinal vessels of rabbits. (Accepted for publication in the **American Journal of Ophthalmology**.)

Martinez, M. and Katzin, H. M.: A new, disposable trephine. (Accepted for publication in the **American Journal of Ophthalmology**.)



ts to undergo corneal transplants with
es on their experiences. The young lady
has passed his ninety-second birthday.

FINANCIAL
REPORT
1995

SUMMARY OF FUND NET ASSETS

General Fund Net Assets:

Cash	\$ 20,299.49	
Investments:		
Securities — at cost or contributed value	115,694.59	
Savings Accounts	72,500.00	
Receivables	5,273.48	
Equipment, furniture, and lease- hold improvements, net —	35,644.87	
Deferred charges, prepaid expenses, etc.	4,386.89	
Accounts payable	(2,685.96)	
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Total — General Fund		\$251,113.36

Restricted Fund Assets:

Cash	2,736.04	
Investments — savings accounts	10,000.00	
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Total — Restricted Funds		\$ 12,736.04
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TOTAL FUNDS		\$263,849.40
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SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES 1964-1965*

Income:

General Contributions	\$ 67,300.12
Restricted Funds	21,845.31
Investment Income	10,653.06
Miscellaneous	5,445.14
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	\$105,243.63

Excess of Expenses over Income	50,324.19
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	\$155,567.82

Expenses:

Research	\$ 59,454.24
Cornea Supply Service	31,030.82
Administration, General	27,885.94
Amort. & Deprec.	17,766.67
Fund Raising	9,948.18
Public Information	9,481.97
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	\$155,567.82

*The Board of Directors approved a change in the fiscal year end from April 30 to March 31, effective in 1965.

The Eye-Bank's finances are audited annually by Certified Public Accountants.

YOUR GIFT MEANS A GIFT OF SIGHT

Every gift to The Eye-Bank, sooner or later . . . directly or indirectly, finds expression in the miracle of restored or improved sight. It may help to: obtain eye donations; pay for especially designed equipment to improve and speed treatment; make possible many hours of intense research in a variety of new areas only now coming under investigation; or, provide training for more doctors in the specialized techniques of eye surgery.

You can help in a number of ways. Gifts in the form of cash, of course, are welcome. Contributions may also be made by giving or pledging securities or property, now or in the future. A variety of trust arrangements may be made which, from a tax standpoint, can benefit you as well as The Eye-Bank. The Eye-Bank may be made the beneficiary of insurance. Bequests are an important consideration for many contributors and, in fact, form a vital source of income for The Eye-Bank today.

Further information about these and other methods of helping The Eye-Bank may be obtained upon request.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE EYE-BANK

Memberships

Annual	\$ 5	to	\$10
Contributing	10	to	25
Sustaining	25	to	100
Scholarship	100	to	500
Research	500	and over	

BEQUESTS

The following form is suggested as appropriate for those who may wish to establish a bequest in their wills for The Eye-Bank —

I give and bequeath to The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration, Incorporated, the sum of
to be applied to the uses and purposes of said corporation.

All gifts to The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration, Incorporated are deductible for tax purposes, within the limits of the law.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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R. Townley Paton, M.D.*
Vice-President

Arthur Knapp, Jr.
Vice-President

Edward E. Watts, Jr.*
Secretary

Andrew Moreland
Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Jorge N. Buxton, M.D.

Sylvan Geismar

Herbert M. Katzin, M.D.

Lawrence C. Marshall

Robert E. McCormick

Edward M. K. Murray

James E. Purnell, M.D.

Donald M. Shafer, M.D.

Mrs. Diego Suarez

Richard C. Troutman, M.D.

*Executive Committee

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mrs. Cornelius P. Rhoads

**THE EYE-BANK FOR
SIGHT RESTORATION, INC.**

**210 EAST 64TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021**